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Office of the Secretary.
Danville, N.Y. 10th May 1890

Dear Mr. Toulgee

Yours of May 2d rec'd. I am glad to know the Judge is gaining, but he must still be in desperate condition when he accuses me of not reading his book. I did read it every word, & it stirred me deeply. I did not say anything about it in my letter because I had sent you an advertisement with my saying it for that time. I shall take occasion to copy something from it next week, & after. There is an undertone of sadness & bitterness about the book that is depressing especially in the Spring time, when people's fancies should turn to the grass & the flowers & such! And to more grass & flowers & horses than the Judge needs just now to restore him to his usual health & jocund mood. Then he will not be suspicious that his old friend & admirer has not read his book. Perhaps he'll accuse me now of not reading his letter on the heels, and when he hears a word

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wisdom or disease of the horse. hereafter
writing on horse, if he will go out & practice
on horse after the style of the pupils of Agnes
in illustrating the subjects of their lessons, the
Judge will be a happier if not a wiser
man. He doesn't need to be any wiser, but
he does need to be happier. He must drop
the "singular pathos" & "hopeless bitterness"
of the life of the colored man, for the
other side of his nature - the humorous & happy
side. He must take a "play-spell" to-morrow's
tough to the winds resign'd for a time at least.
The favored Judge - I'd give a farm to hear
his hearty, infectious laughter once more - just
such a laugh as he had over our basket
of kittens on his last visit. Let him keep
the vow registered in the last letter - that
hereafter I will give more attention to horses
& also to humanity, & all may be well. * He
certainly will find the horses the more

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grateful. Said vow is a good one to make on one's birthday. 52 years old, he writes me, why I am his elder by two years - & he has lived so much more than I can hope to live if my life is extended to a hundred years.

I shall try some part of his treatment. There is too much of it for the size of my horse to risk it all! More treatment than pony. But he never does anything by halves.

I'll do my best to push Baetalus for the good of the Judge's wife & native land. I have not yet read the bill on which the Judge speaks so understandingly. That committee must have a clear idea of what may be safely done in the direction of the national central question.

My kindest regards to your family, even to the Judge who has come to regard me with suspicion.

Sincerely Yrs
A. C. Bunnell

You ought not
to have written Ben
well that I was
suspicious of him
Of course, you
did not mean
it half as bad
as he puts it
by